Correspondence

This section is primarily for the use of AAA members, although contributions from others may be printed if they are considered of value. Correspondents are urged to limit length; the Editor reserves the right to select and to edit letters. All letters must be clearly marked for Anthropology Newsletter *Correspondence, be* **typed double-spaced, not exceed 500 words in length, and consist of an original and two copies.** *Letters published reflect the views of the correspondents; their publication does not signify endorsement by the* Anthropology Newsletter *or the American Anthropological Association.*

Plea for Contributions to Tozzer Library

For over half a century the Tozzer Library of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology has provided a unique service to the anthropological profession in indexing the periodicals and collections of essays acquired by the Library. The results of this indexing are published in the *Catalogue of the Peabody Museum* which now numbers over seventy volumes. The *Fourth Supplement* to the Catalogue, including over 100,000 entries, will be published next year.

Just at the time when plans are under way to make the indexing of anthropological periodicals more accessible to the anthropological profession through the publication of a bimonthly index to anthropological periodicals, the very existence of the indexing system is threatened. Due to increasing costs for the maintenance of the new Library building completed in 1974, and the rapid inflation of library costs, Peabody Museum can no longer support all of the functions of the Library. The Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Harvard University is willing to contribute to the support of only those library functions which are of most direct benefit to the Harvard community. Indexing is not one of these functions from the viewpoint of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

If the indexing of anthropological periodicals and collections of essays is to continue, new sources of funding must be found before the beginning of the new fiscal year. One possible source of additional funds to support the indexing system is from those anthropologists who have used the indexing system for their research and who would benefit from having the indexing system continued in the future. Therefore, we are asking anthropologists who are interested in having the Tozzer Library indexing system continued to make a financial contribution to the support of the indexing system. You may make a single contribution or you may make an annual pledge payable July 1 of each year. Please make your check out to Tozzer Library and mail it to Nancy J Schmidt, Tozzer Library, 21 Divinity Av, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Thank you for your support in helping Tozzer Library continue this valuable service to the anthropological profession.

C C Lamberg-Karlovsky
Director of Peabody Museum

Nancy J Schmidt
Librarian of Tozzer Library

Advice to Advisors

Several days ago, a colleague showed me James G Chadney's letter in the January 1978 *Anthropology Newsletter* which came out while I was in Turkey. That *Peoples of the Earth* publication Chadney writes of is hardly "new." Although I can no longer find my correspondence in the matter, what I recall is as follows. About ten or twelve years ago, I received a request from an English publisher, unknown to me, asking if I would advise on the content of the prehistory section in a new publication, of which the late E E Evans-Pritchard was to be the editor. The names of no other contributors or advisers were revealed. My answer was, in effect, that I would need to see some manuscript before I advised.

Total silence followed, until about five years later, when I received (from a member of the faculty at Central Michigan University, whose name I can no longer recall), a photocopy of a blurb advertising *Peoples of the World*. The Central Michigan colleague was obviously as affronted by the blurb's contents as Chadney now is and as I certainly was on receiving the photocopy. My recollection is that the blurb came from a company somewhere in Connecticut and that the word "Grolier" was part of the name of the company. I wrote a properly hot letter to the company demanding the removal of my name from the whole thing, only to be told in response that they were simply the agent for the English publisher and I must address myself to the latter. I did, and again total silence. I left soon for a year in the field, the whole correspondence seems to have been "house cleaned" while I was away, and the matter completely slipped my mind.

I'm rather doubtful that anything can be done in the matter after this long time, beyond what Chadney does in bringing the whole matter up for public scrutiny, and I thank him warmly for doing so. To all younger colleagues, this advice—don't consider becoming an adviser unless you're advised of whom you'll be advising!

Robert J Braidwood
Chicago

Horror Stories of Peer Review

The horror stories accumulating in the pages of the *Anthropology Newsletter* on the topic of *peer group review*, and the selection of papers for the Annual Meeting, prompt the following suggestions:

(1) Abolish peer group review;

(2) Restrict papers to Fellows, or those others whom Fellows may designate in abdication of their own prerogative;

(3) Accept papers in order of complete submission, chronologically, until the designated manageable number is achieved;

(4) As now: compile preliminary programs on the basis of summaries of proposed papers;

(5) Restrict the final program to completed manuscripts conforming to the style specifications of the *American Anthropologist* and ready for photocopying and distribution;

(6) Find methods for enforcing the courtesy procedures limiting papers *read* to the number of words comporting with a time requirement;

(7) Institute procedures for choosing student papers from regional meetings which can be read at the Annual Meeting.

Donald Edward Curry
New York

Threefold Response

Three comments in the February 1978 *Anthropology Newsletter* have prompted me to pick up my pen: Kalona's discussion of expanding jobs, Vreeland's profile of an anthropologist at

Correspondence continued on p 28

anthropology newsletter

Published monthly except July and August by the American Anthropological Association. Distributed to members of the Association with membership; available to non-members at $7.50 per year. Single copy, $1.00.

Edward J Lehman, *Editor*

Christina L Malec, *Assistant to the Editor*

Contributing Editors
Cynthia Irwin-Williams (E New Mexico)
Society for American Archaeology
Michael D Olien (Georgia)
Latin American Anthropology Group

Section Editors: Louis Cimino, Public Affairs Report and Legislative Calendar; Don Zies, Grants and Support; Diane Marshall, Placement Service

Elsa Louise Vorwerk, *Production Editor*

Susan Griffin, *Circulation Manager*

Letters, news stories, reports and all other material submitted for publication must consist of an original and two copies and be typed double-spaced. Deadline for receipt is the 1st of the month preceding cover date.

Anthropology Newsletter
American Anthropological Association
1703 New Hampshire Av NW
Washington, DC 20009
(Telephone: 202/232-8800)

Copyright © 1978
American Anthropological Association

Edward J Lehman, *Publisher*

2nd class postage paid at Washington, DC

CORRESPONDENCE cont'd from p 2

work and Boggins' discussion of the AID. These comments are highly interrelated.

I feel qualified to share my thoughts with my colleagues because my experience includes 12 years in government research, 4 years as a social scientist in the business world and 12 years as a full-time academic. While engaged in the various research positions, I also taught part-time.

In the SUNY system of colleges and universities where I am now located, it is said that we suffer because there is no "old boy" (persons) network of SUNY graduates in the state legislature and state administration. I believe that is the case.

In the federal government in Washington, which I once knew intimately, I believe that is also the case. The "old boy" (persons) network of anthropologists does exist and function, but it is very small compared to the economists' or lawyers' networks.

The AID problem is an old one. In the 1960s a book called *Transforming Traditional Agriculture* by Theodore W Schultz (Yale University Press, 1964) was read and quoted by those involved in the developing world. Schultz, an economist, wrote that the problems faced by the emerging peoples and nations were as much anthropological as economic. He called for anthropologists to work with economists and agricultural scientists on these tremendously complex problems. Yet, in the middle 1960s, AID appointed an experimental psychologist to head up an important research office. The experimental psychologist left that position and was replaced by his friend, a clinical psychologist. Neither man had had any experience in overseas research, cultural or social change problems, or in dealing with people of another culture.

About the same time, I applied for a position with AID and was granted an interview with one of the top administrators in his very large, posh and elegantly appointed office. His deputy was also present. I thought that the interview went very well. As I left the room with the deputy, he told me that the job was mine and that I was to call a week later to finalize the necessary paperwork. I did so but the deputy denied that I had been offered the job. Strange? I had had experience as an applied anthropologist and as a bureaucrat.

In the past year, I have had an inquiry from AID that described short-term and long-term consultancies. I responded that I was interested but knew in my heart that nothing would come of it.

The profile by Hal Vreeland, whom I have known for many years, carries a message that I believe in: the anthropologist who seeks employment outside academia must be an exceedingly well-trained social scientist. The problems and projects appropriate to government agencies and business concerns require more than the anthropological theory and methodologies that have been applied to small-scale societies. The anthropologist's expertise with qualitative data needs to be complemented with the feel and know-how of sociologists, demographers, statisticians, economists and, yes, social historians. Often we pretend that the team approach brings these diverse talents together to focus on the problem. But successful team research is exceedingly difficult to achieve. Often times, the discipline and/or biases of the team leader have priority. I would suggest that training of the anthropologist incorporate such complementary bodies of knowledge and skills. In my course on research methods for anthropology majors, I make every attempt to convey the importance of becoming that excellent social scientist as part of becoming that excellent anthropologist.

We anthropologists do spend too much time talking to ourselves. In the past, I have worked with psychologists who felt superior to anthropologists even if the anthropologists had degrees in psychology as well as PhDs in anthropology. Departments of anthropology, at least some that I have known, are not comfortable with anthropologists who have demonstrated competency and achievement in other disciplines. And we are the professionals who teach about ethnocentrism. So we should not be surprised to find that agencies and businesses managed by economists and bureaucrats prefer to employ economists and bureaucrats.

One last comment about the federal government as an employer of anthropologists. I have read in a significant number of articles that the US Civil Service as an open, merit-based personnel agency was effectively destroyed during the Nixon years. The destruction was directed at the middle and upper levels of the governmental structure where persons with graduate university training would best fit. Many of these positions were filled by political appointees. I suspect that if such positions are presently being filled, these are political appointments as well.

Milton Jacobs
SUNY C New Paltz

AE Policy Queried

The breath-taking response to my letter by *American Ethnologist* editor Fox needs no elaboration from me. I prefer to let it stand in its integrity as a worthy summation of an astonishing publishing experience.

In the meantime, to return to the subject of my original letter, would it be at all possible to have—somehow, somewhere—an answer to my simple question: is it the policy of the *American Ethnologist* not to give authors a look at the editing of their text before that editing is irretrievably committed to the galleys? Do I really need to explain the professional and scholarly implications of this procedure? And how many letters does one normally have to write to have an answer to such a question?

Igor Kopytoff
Pennsylvania

The Editor Responds

The policy of the *American Ethnologist* is to inform authors of editorial changes in their manuscripts when these changes are major ones that involve content or technical wording. The changes made in Kopytoff's manuscript, although extensive, were grammatical and stylistic only and, therefore, did not require such consultation, in my opinion.

Richard G Fox
Editor, *American Ethnologist*

Meeting Application Deadlines

As a professional seeking a job, I am becoming increasingly upset by the lack of professionalism displayed in the placement notices in the *Anthropology Newsletter*. A particularly annoying point is application deadlines which are expired before I receive the newsletter! In the March newsletter, I counted two deadlines which had expired before I even received the newsletter (March 20); seven deadlines within two weeks of receipt date; and four within a month of it. This is out of a total of 16 advertisements giving such a deadline. February's newsletter was even worse. It had seven job openings with deadlines before February 15 (two with December 15, and one with January 31!); and another six before March 17; out of a total of 17 job advertisements with deadlines. It is unethical to require a deadline before the probable receipt date, if not illegal. It is well known that the AAA newsletter for each month is received by the middle or later part of the month. Why isn't some attempt made to allow for this delay? Even a deadline two weeks after the probable receipt date is difficult to meet, if letters of reference are requested. This, of course, ignores the advertisements which do not have the good grace to provide a deadline. Certainly, the AAA newsletter could refuse to run an advertisement which the Placement Service editor clearly must know will appear after the deadline has expired, and request other job opening advertisements to indicate a reasonable deadline.

Thank you for your time and trouble.

David B Hull,
Richard Goldberg,
Louis J Tartaglia
CSU Northridge

The Placement Service Director Responds

While the letter from Hull, Goldberg and Tartaglia raises the legitimate issue of coordinating position-open listings so that they appear in advance of deadline dates, the problems are not as severe, nor the issue as easily resolved, as the letter suggests. Excepting the December 15 and January 31 deadlines in the February issue, there were only three positions in the February and March issues with deadlines prior to the end of the month and not listed in previous issues: one had a deadline of March 15 for a position beginning April; the other two had deadlines of March 15 and March 24.

Employers are urged to submit listings to the *Anthropology Newsletter* as soon as possible so that deadline dates occur no earlier than the last day of the month in which the issue is published, but the problem remains one of balancing the needs of employers, who sometimes must fill unanticipated openings under limited time constraints, with the need of applicants for enough time to respond. If the newsletter systematically refused to publish all listings having close deadlines, it would only be encouraging reliance on the "old boy" network.

Active job-seekers should be ready to respond quickly by having resumes available and by asking referees to prepare letters beforehand.

Louis F Cimino